

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1-26. (Cancelled)

27. (New) An information terminal for performing radio communication with an information processing apparatus, said information terminal comprising:

a first input unit operable to accept an input operation and to output a signal responsive to the input operation,

a processing unit operable to process the signal outputted from said first input unit and to generate an output signal; and

a communication unit operable to convert the output signal and to transmit the converted signal to the information processing apparatus;

wherein said information terminal is operable to disable one of a start or a function of the information processing apparatus responsive to the input operation.

28. (New) The information processing apparatus for performing radio communication with said information terminal according to claim 27, wherein said information processing apparatus comprises:

a transmitting and receiving unit operable to perform radio communication with said information terminal;

a locking unit operable to disable one of a start or a function of said information processing apparatus,

one of a radio field strength detector operable to measure a field strength of a received signal transmitted from said information terminal or a location detector operable to detect a location of said information processing apparatus; and

an out-of-range determining and informing unit operable to judge one of the measured field strength of the received signal or the detected location of said information processing apparatus, and to output a notice signal to said locking unit when one of the measured field

strength of the received signal or the detected location of said information processing apparatus is out of a predetermined range;

wherein said locking unit is operable to be activated by one of the input operation accepted by said first input unit or the notice signal.

29. (New) The information processing apparatus according to claim 28, further comprising:
a function determining unit operable to determine a command included in a signal transmitted from said information terminal through said transmitting and receiving unit of said information processing apparatus;

a password setting unit operable to set a password that is transmitted from said information terminal through said function determining unit;

a password memory operable to store the password through said password setting unit;
and

an unlocking unit operable to enable one of a start or a function of said information processing apparatus;

wherein said unlocking unit is operable to be activated when the password stored in said password memory is matched with a password received from said communication unit of said information terminal.

30. (New) The information processing apparatus according to claim 28, further comprising:
a range memory operable to store a predetermined range of said information processing apparatus;

an operation control unit operable to judge whether the detected location of said information processing apparatus is within the predetermined range stored in said range memory;
and

an unlocking unit operable to enable one of a start or a function of said information processing apparatus;

wherein said location detector is operable to use a global positioning system to locate the position of said information processing apparatus, and

wherein said locking unit is operable to be activated when said location detector determines that the location of said information processing apparatus is out of the predetermined range, and said unlocking unit is operable to be activated when said location detector determines that the location of said information processing apparatus is within the predetermined range.

31. (New) The information processing apparatus according to claim 30, wherein said information processing apparatus further comprises:

a second input unit operable to accept an input operation and to output a signal responsive to the input operation accepted by said second input unit; and

a display unit operable to display at least one of an image or text responsive to the input operation accepted by said second input unit;

wherein when said location detector determines that the location of said information processing apparatus is out of the predetermined range, said locking unit is operable to disable at least one of said second input unit and said display unit of said information processing apparatus or to disable a start of said information processing apparatus, and

when said location detector determines that the location of said information processing apparatus is within the predetermined range, said unlocking unit is operable to enable at least one of said second input unit or said display unit of said information processing apparatus, or to enable a start of said information processing apparatus.

32. (New) The information terminal according to claim 27, further comprising:

a display unit operable to display at least one of an image or text by processing a received signal transmitted from said information processing apparatus through said processing unit;

a locking unit operable to disable one of a start or a function of said information terminal or to disable at least one of said first input unit or said display unit of said information terminal;

a radio field strength detector operable to measure a field strength of the received signal transmitted from said information processing apparatus; and

an out-of-range determining and informing unit operable to judge the measured field strength of the received signal transmitted from said information processing apparatus and to output a notice signal to said locking unit of said information terminal so as to activate said locking unit of said information terminal when the measured field strength of the received signal transmitted from the information processing apparatus is out of a predetermined range.

33. (New) The information terminal according to claim 27, further comprising:

a display unit operable to display at least one of an image or text by processing a received signal transmitted from said information processing apparatus through said processing unit;

a locking unit operable to disable one of a start or a function of said information terminal, or to disable at least one of said first input unit or said display unit of said information terminal;

a location detector operable to detect a location of said information terminal by using a global positioning system; and

an out-of-range determining and informing unit operable to judge the detected location of said information terminal and to output a notice signal to said locking unit of said information terminal so as to activate said locking unit of said information terminal when the detected location of said information terminal is out of a predetermined range.

34. The information terminal according to claim 27, further comprising:

one of a field strength detector operable to measure a field strength of a received signal transmitted from said information processing apparatus or a location detector operable to detect a location of said information terminal by using a global positioning system; and

an out-of-range determining and informing unit operable to judge one of the measured field strength of the received signal or the detected location of said information terminal, and to output a notice signal to said processing unit when said out-of-range determining and informing

unit of said information terminal judges one of the measured field strength of the received signal or the detected location of said information terminal to be out of a predetermined range;

wherein said processing unit is operable to transmit the notice signal to said communication unit, and said communication unit is operable to transmit the notice signal to said information processing apparatus so as to disable one of a start or a function of said information processing apparatus.

35. (New) The information terminal according to claim 27, further comprising:

a function selector operable to output to said communication unit a command selected by a user from among “lock operation”, “unlock operation”, and “setting password”, and

a password entry unit operable to receive a password entered by the user and to output the received password to said communication unit.

36. (New) An information processing system including an information terminal and an information processing apparatus which are operable to perform radio communication with each other, wherein:

said information terminal comprises

a first input unit operable to accept an input operation and to output a signal responsive to the input operation accepted by said first input unit,

a processing unit operable to process the signal outputted from said first input unit and to generate an output signal, and

a communication unit operable to convert the output signal and to transmit the converted signal to said information processing apparatus; and

said information processing apparatus comprises

a transmitting and receiving unit operable to perform radio communication with said information terminal,

a locking unit operable to disable one of a start or a function of said information processing apparatus,

one of a field strength detector operable to measure a field strength of a received signal transmitted from said information terminal or a location detector operable to detect a location of said information processing apparatus, and

an out-of-range determining and informing unit operable to judge one of the field strength of the received signal or the detected location of said information processing apparatus, and to output a notice signal to said locking unit when one of the measured field strength of the received signal or the detected location of said information processing apparatus is out of a predetermined range;

wherein said locking unit of said information processing apparatus is operable to be activated by one of the input operation accepted by said first input unit or the notice signal outputted from said out-of-range determining and informing unit of said information processing apparatus.

37. (New) The information processing system according to claim 36, wherein:

said information terminal further comprises

a location detector operable to detect a location said information terminal by using a global positioning system, and

an out-of-range determining and informing unit operable to judge the detected location of said information terminal and to output a notice signal when the detected location of said information terminal is out of a predetermined range, said communication unit being operable to transmit the notice signal outputted from said out-of-range determining and informing unit of said information terminal to said information processing apparatus; and

said information processing apparatus further comprises

a second input unit operable to accept an input operation and to output a signal responsive to the input operation accepted by said second input unit,

a display unit operable to display at least one of an image or text responsive to the input operation accepted by said second input unit,

wherein said locking unit of said information processing apparatus is operable to disable one of a start or a function of said information processing apparatus, or to disable at least one of said second input unit or said display unit of said information processing apparatus, and

said locking unit of said information processing apparatus is operable to be activated by the notice signal outputted from said out-of-range determining and informing unit of said information terminal.

38. (New) The information processing system according to claim 36, wherein:

said information terminal further comprises

a function selector operable to output to said communication unit a command selected from among “lock operation”, “unlock operation”, and “setting password”, and

a password entry unit operable to receive an entered password and to output the received password to said communication unit to be transmitted to said information processing apparatus; and

said information processing apparatus further comprises

a second input unit operable to accept an input operation and to output a signal responsive to input operation accepted by said second input unit,

a function determining unit operable to determine a command selected in said information terminal through said transmitting and receiving unit of said information processing apparatus,

a password setting unit operable to set a password transmitted from said communication unit of said information terminal through said function determining unit,

a password memory operable to store the password through said password setting unit, and

an unlocking unit operable to enable said second input unit when the command is “unlock operation” and when the password stored in said password memory is matched with the password received from said communication unit of said information terminal;

wherein the command received from said information terminal activates one of said locking unit and said unlocking unit.

39. (New) A control method for an information terminal for performing radio communication with an information processing apparatus, said control method comprising:
accepting an input operation and outputting a signal responsive to the input operation;
processing the signal outputted in said outputting of the signal and generating an output signal;
converting the output signal and transmitting the converted signal to the information processing apparatus; and
disabling one of a start or a function of the information processing apparatus responsive to the input operation.

40. (New) The control method for an information terminal according to claim 39, further comprising:
receiving a radio signal transmitted from the information processing apparatus and processing the received radio signal;
displaying at least one of an image or text according to the processed signal;
measuring a field strength of the received radio signal;
judging the measured field strength of the received radio signal and outputting a notice signal when the measured field strength of the received radio signal is out of a predetermined range; and
disabling at least one of said displaying of the at least one of the image or text or said judging of the measured field strength responsive to the notice signal, or disabling a start of the information terminal responsive to the notice signal.

41. (New) The control method for an information terminal according to claim 39, further comprising:

receiving a radio signal transmitted from the information processing apparatus and processing the received radio signal;
displaying at least one of an image or text according to the processed signal;
detecting a location of the information terminal by using a global positioning system;
judging the detected location of the information terminal and outputting a notice signal when the detected location of the information terminal is out of a predetermined range; and
disabling at least one of said accepting of the input operation or said displaying of the at least one of the image or text responsive to the notice signal, or disabling a start of the information terminal responsive to the notice signal.

42. (New) The control method for an information terminal according to claim 39, further comprising:

detecting a location of the information terminal by using a global positioning system;
judging the detected location of the information terminal and outputting a notice signal when the detected location of the information terminal is out of a predetermined range; and
disabling one of a start or a function of the information processing apparatus responsive to the notice signal.

43. (New) The control method for an information terminal according to claim 39, wherein: said accepting of the input operation further includes

accepting an input of a command from among “lock operation”, “unlock operation” and “set password”, and

accepting an input of a password; and

said converting of the output signal and transmitting the converted signal to the information processing apparatus further includes transmitting a command and a password entered by the input operation in said accepting of the input operation to the information processing apparatus so as to control the information processing apparatus.

44. (New) A control method for an information processing system for controlling an information terminal and an information processing apparatus to mutually perform radio communication with each other, wherein:

in the information processing apparatus; said control method comprises

- receiving a radio signal transmitted from the information terminal,
- outputting a notice signal responsive to at least one of a field strength of the received radio signal transmitted from the information terminal or a location of the information processing apparatus, and
- disabling one of a start or a function of the information processing apparatus responsive to the notice signal outputted in said outputting of the notice signal; and

in the information terminal, said control method comprises

- accepting an input operation inputted to the information terminal and outputting a signal responsive to the input operation inputted to the information terminal,
- processing the signal outputted in said outputting of the signal responsive to the input operation inputted to the information terminal, and generating an output signal,
- converting the output signal and transmitting the converted signal to the information processing apparatus, and
- disabling one of a start or a function of the information processing apparatus responsive to the input operation inputted to the information terminal.

45. (New) The control method for an information processing system according to claim 44, wherein:

in the information terminal, said control method further comprises:

- detecting a position of the information terminal by using a global positioning system,
- judging the detected location of the information terminal and outputting a notice signal when the detected location of the information terminal is out of a predetermined range, and

transmitting the notice signal to the information processing apparatus; and
in the information processing apparatus, said control method further comprises
accepting an input operation inputted to the information processing apparatus and
outputting a signal responsive to the input operation inputted to the information
processing apparatus,
displaying at least one of an image or text responsive to the input operation
accepted in said accepting of the input operation inputted to the information processing
apparatus, and
disabling at least one of said accepting of the input operation inputted to the
information processing apparatus or said displaying of the at least one of the image or
text, or disabling a start of the information processing apparatus responsive to the notice
signal.

46. (New) The control method for an information processing system according to claim 44,
wherein, in the information terminal,
said accepting of the input operation inputted to the information terminal further includes
accepting an input of a command from among “lock operation”, “unlock
operation” and “set password”, and
accepting an input of a password, and
said converting of the output signal further includes transmitting a command and a
password entered by the input operation inputted in the information terminal in said accepting of
the input operation inputted to the information terminal to the information processing apparatus
so as to control the information processing apparatus; and
wherein, in the information processing apparatus, said control method further comprises:
receiving the command and password transmitted from the information terminal
in said transmitting of the command and the password;
determining a command from among “lock operation”, “unlock operation” and
“set password”;

storing a password in the information processing apparatus when the command is determined to be “set password” in said determining of the command;

enabling one of a start or a function of the information processing apparatus when the password stored in said storing of the password is matched with the password received from the information terminal when the command is determined to be “unlock operation” in said determining of the command; and

disabling one of a start or a function of the information processing apparatus when the command is determined to be “lock operation” in said determining of the command.

47. (New) A control method for an information processing apparatus for performing radio communication with an information terminal, said control method comprising:

measuring a field strength of a received signal transmitted from the information terminal, judging the measured field strength of the received signal and outputting a notice signal when the measured field strength of the received signal is judged to be out of a predetermined range, and

disabling one of a start or a function of the information processing apparatus responsive to the notice signal outputted in said outputting of the notice signal.

48. (New) The control method for an information processing apparatus according to claim 47, further comprising:

receiving a signal including a command that is transmitted from the information terminal; determining a command from among “lock operation”, “unlock operation” and “set password”;

storing a password in the information processing apparatus responsive to the signal received in said receiving of the signal when the command is determined to be “set password” in said determining of the command; and

enabling one of a start or a function of the information processing apparatus when the password stored in said storing of the password is matched with a password received from the

information terminal and when the command is determined to be “unlock operation” in said determining of the command.

49. (New) The control method for an information processing apparatus according to claim 47, further comprising:

- detecting a location of the information processing apparatus by using a global positioning system;

- storing a predetermined range of the information processing apparatus;

- disabling one of a start or a function of the information processing apparatus when the detected location of the information processing apparatus is out of the predetermined range; and

- enabling one of a start or a function of the information processing apparatus when the detected location of the information processing apparatus is within the predetermined range.

50 (New) The control method for an information processing apparatus according to claim 49, further comprising:

- accepting an input operation and outputting a signal responsive to the input operation;

- displaying at least one of an image or text responsive to the input operation;

- disabling at least one of said accepting of the input operation or said displaying of the at least one of the image or text when the detected location of the information processing apparatus is out of the predetermined range; and

- enabling at least one of said accepting of the input operation or said displaying of the at least one of the image and text when the detected location of the information processing apparatus when the detected location of the information processing apparatus is within the predetermined range.